PRESIDENT: The Bill will now stand over.

The consideration of the Travancore Partition Bill having been postponed, the House passed on to the next item in the agenda.

RESOLUTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

The following resolution was deemed to have been withdrawn as the member was absent:

MR. K. PADMANABHA PANIKKAR (*Ambalapuzha*): This Council recommends to the Government that the taxes on *vallams* used purely for agricultural purposes be abolished.

COMMITTEE ON THE REVISION OF SCALES OF PAY AND GRADES OF OFFICERS.

MR. A S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Sir, I beg to move the following resolution:—

"This Council recommends to the Government that a committee with an elected non-official majority be appointed to suggest measures to bring about greater uniformity in the grades and scales of pay and qualifications of officers of the various Departments of the State".

Sir, it has been repeatedly urged in this Council that the amount that is set apart for the salaries of officers is disproportionately large and that some method should be found out for reducing the same. It has also been brought to the notice of the Council that the low-paid subordinates of the departments, peons and others, are not getting sufficient pay in order to enable them to have a decent living. Another complaint that has been raised with regard to the pay of officers is that the officers in the higher grades—the Heads of Departments including the Dewan and other high-paid officers—are drawing too high salaries that some substantial reduction should be made. A fourth objection that has been levelled against the present system is that many of the departments are over-staffed and that without detriment to efficiency, some reduction could be effected in the number of persons serving in each of the departments.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): May I know whether the member is aware of the existence of the Retrenchment Committee and its labours?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I am fully aware of that—its constitution, how it is functioning and all that. But I know quite well that the Retrenchment Committee will not do the functions which the committee contemplated under my resolution is to perform.

Sir, it is with this object that I suggest that a committee with an elected non-official majority be appointed to go into the whole question and to rectify the defects which have been brought to the notice of this Council on many occasions.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): Does the resolution suggest the reduction of appointments?

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MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : This resolution is to bring about greater uniformity in the grades and scales of pay and qualifications of officers.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): In respect of posts that are now in existence. But the resolution does not contemplate a reduction of staff.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : In order to bring about greater uniformity in the grades of officers, it may be necessary to create some new posts and to abolish certain others.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*) : Will it also be necessary to introduce some new posts ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : It may be. I do not say that it is necessary. I leave it to the committee to decide. We have been complaining that the Development Department in the State has not been functioning properly and.....

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*) : Is it due to want of officers ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : The member will please hear me and ask questions after I finish the sentence.

It has been stated that the Development Departments in the State are not given sufficient funds for carrying on the work to the best interests of the country. A question was asked by my friend whether it was ever suggested that the number of persons in the department is inadequate. Well, if more funds are allowed and if the work of the department is to be carried on more efficiently, it will be necessary to appoint more hands for carrying on its functions.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : But, what has that to do with uniformity in the grades and scales of pay ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : I have answered that question. In order to bring about greater uniformity, what I am suggesting is that it will be necessary to abolish certain posts and introduce certain others.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*) : Is the member aware that it was only very recently that a small committee known as the Salaries Committee was appointed and that it discharged its functions to the satisfaction of all ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : It was not recently ; it was about ten years back *i. e.*, before 1097.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*) : Am I to understand that the committee contemplated by the member is expected to discharge the same duties as those discharged by the Salaries Committee ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : And other duties also. I think the scope of the Salaries Committee was limited. It was not so comprehensive as this ; moreover ten years have elapsed and so many changes have taken place.

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RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Does Mr. Asan think that this period of threatened deficit is the appropriate occasion for discussing and settling the salaries to be paid to officers?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): That is why I said that this committee is contemplated not to enhance the pay or to increase the number of appointments but to bring about greater uniformity in pay by reduction of the pay of high-paid officers.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): I would like to know the exact scope of the resolution?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Four or five defects have been brought to the notice of this House. The first is that the expenditure on account of salaries of high-paid officers is very high and that it must be reduced; the second, that the low-paid subordinates, such as peons, etc., are not given an adequate pay to enable them to make a living; the third, that the high-paid officers in the State are drawing too much salary which our finances do not permit us now to pay and therefore it will be better to effect a reduction.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Would that not come under the first point mentioned by Mr. Asan?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): The first is a general question which could be tackled in so many ways of which one is by reducing the pay of the high-paid officers, another by reducing the number of appointments. It may be either considered as a sub-division of the first or as an independent one.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): My question is whether in this period of financial distress, it would be fair to call upon any committee to sit in judgment and say what would be the fair living wage either of a low-paid clerk or of those who are drawing high salaries, whether we can approach the question with that spirit of detachment which certainly all of us desire in settling such an important question. Does the member think that justice would be done?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I fear that the learned Deputy President thinks that as a necessary concomitant of the recommendations of the committee there will be an increase of expenditure under the head of salaries. Is that what he means?

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Whether it is a case of reduction of salaries or of enhancement of salaries, it falls within the scope of the resolution. What I wish to know is whether this is the proper occasion for considering the broad question of revising the scale, in fact going into the question of salaries to officers in the State generally—whether this is the occasion for it?

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MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I think that this occasion is not in any way inopportune.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): I only wanted his opinion on the matter.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I do not think that because we are passing through a period of economic stringency, the suggested committee will be unable to collect the necessary information, examine the conditions, pay and other circumstances prevailing and make suitable recommendations for the future.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): So, it is not a temporary retrenchment?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): It is not.

I am not going to anticipate what the recommendations of the committee will be. All that I wish to impress upon the House is that all these defects have been brought to the notice of this House on various occasions and that it is highly necessary to find out a remedy which will cure these defects at the earliest possible date.

MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Shertallai*): Will it not cost additional expense to Government?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I think it will only reduce the expenditure.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Commerce and Industry, North*): ഈ കമ്മിറ്റി അംഗങ്ങളെ കൌൺസിലിൽ നിന്നു തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കണൊ, അതല്ല ഗവണ്മെൻറു നിയമിച്ചാൽ മതിയോ ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): "എലക്ടെഡ്" എന്നു പറയുന്നുണ്ട്.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Commerce and Industry, North*): അല്ല ഈ കൌൺസിലിൽ നിന്നു തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കയാണോ വേണ്ടതു് ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): ഭൂരിപക്ഷം അനുദ്യോഗസ്ഥാംഗങ്ങൾ ആടങ്ങിയിരിക്കണമെന്നാണു് എൻറെ ആശ.

MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Am I to understand the member to say that he has no confidence in the present Retrenchment Committee?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Karitkapalli*): With regard to that, what I wish to say is that the present Retrenchment Committee is constituted by the Government with seven members on it consisting of the Financial Secretary, the Chief Secretary, the Land Revenue and Income-Tax commissioner, the Secretary to the Legislative Council, and three non-official members elected by this Council. It does not contain a non-official majority; and, moreover, the scope of the Retrenchment Committee is limited.

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MR. S. C. H. ROBINSON (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : Then, has the member no confidence in that Committee ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : Not that. I may have confidence in Mr. Robinson. But I may not expect him to perform the duties of the Excise Commissioner or the Dewan.

MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Shertallai*) : May I know whether the Retrenchment Committee is concerned only with the reduction of pay while that proposed by Mr. Asan even intends to enhance the pay of some officers ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : It may be necessary if the committee deems it fit. But this is to be a permanent arrangement while the Retrenchment Committee is to make recommendations for temporary reductions.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*) : Sir, on a point of order, I wish to know whether reduction or enhancement of pay comes under the scope of this resolution as it is worded. The resolution is regarding uniformity in the grades, scales of pay and qualifications of officers. In these circumstances, I wish to know whether reduction or enhancement of salaries properly and relevantly comes under the scope of the resolution as it is worded.

PRESIDENT : I think it would. Uniformity in the scales of pay might require raising in some places and lowering in some others. It is a question that will come under the scope of this resolution. It is not a temporary measure, as Mr. Asan pointed out, but a permanent one.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*) : My doubt is whether this resolution is not more for equalisation of grades or for achieving uniformity of grades, scales and qualifications than for a retrenchment scheme, for reducing or raising of pay.

PRESIDENT : In order to make certain scales uniform reduction or enhancement might be necessary. Suppose you take the pay of any officer in one department and that of a like officer in another department, you may find that there is difference. In order to bring about uniformity, you will have to reduce the one or raise the other.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) : Will the member be satisfied by having a majority of non-officials on the present Retrenchment Committee ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : No. What I said was that the Retrenchment Committee was only to make suggestions for the purpose of tiding over the present economic stringency.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*) : May I correct the member ? The G. O. runs as follows :—

> "The Committee will investigate the means of retrenchment, both *temporary and permanent*, in the present expenditure of the State and after an examination of all possible economies with a view to stabilising the financial position make specific recommendations to Government for reducing the expenditure with due regard to the need of efficient administration".

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So the Retrenchment Committee is concerned not only with temporary reductions but also permanent reductions.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): May I know how the Retrenchment Committee arrives at conclusions ? Is it by taking votes ?

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Till now there was no necessity to take votes as the decisions were practically unanimous.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Will the member please say what procedure is adopted in other Committees whenever decisions have to be arrived at ? Will he be satisfied if the same procedure is adopted in the Retrenchment Committee also ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) In the case of —

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Being a member of the Retrenchment Committee, I wish to correct the Financial Secretary.

PRESIDENT: Let us have an answer to the question put by Mr. S. Krishna Pillai.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): In the case of other committees what is usually done is that when there is a difference of opinion, votes are taken and conclusions are arrived at according to the decision of the majority. With regard to the Retrenchment Committee, if the same procedure is adopted and even if the three non-official members stand together, I am sure that they will never be able to carry out any of their proposals. If the Retrenchment Committee is following the procedure that is followed by the Finance Committee, votes are not taken and the Government as a matter of convention, accept the suggestions of the non-official members if there is unanimity amongst them. But I would say that there is much difference between the procedure that might have been adopted by the Retrenchment Committee and that is usually adopted by other committees. If there is no difference, that is for the worse of the non-official members as after taking votes the Government are not bound to follow even the conventions usually followed in the case of the Finance Committee.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): May I know whether Government are compelled by any convention or rule to accept the recommendations of the non-official committee which the member proposes ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): At least the committee will be competent to record an opinion in accordance with the wishes of the non-official members as there is to be a non-official majority. I do not think that Government would be compelled to act in accordance with the decisions of the non-official members unless a committee to which the Government is responsible is appointed.

MR. M. GOVINDAN (*Nominated*): Does not the member think that the functions of the Retrenchment Committee will overlap the functions of the committee to be constituted according to his resolution?

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MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : I do not think so.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*) : One question, Sir, with regard to the statement that the member made a little while ago that the election must be made by this Council. May I ask whether that is an essential part of the resolution ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : When Mr. Kunjitomman asked me whether the members to the committee could not be elected by this Council, I said that that would be better. The members to the committee may be elected by this Council or by the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly. I leave it entirely to the discretion of the Government. My only point is that there must be a non-official majority in the committee.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*) : Will the member be satisfied if, from among the elected members of this Council, the Government nominate some members to the Committee?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : I would prefer *election* by this Council. I have clearly stated *elected* non-official members should form the majority in the committee. The resoltion is clear on that point.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*) : Am I to understand that, according to the member and his resolution, *any* member of the committee, should be elected by this Council?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : All that I have said is that it must be a committee consisting of a majority of non-official members responsible to the electorate. The election may be made by this Council or by the Assembly.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*) : Does not the resolution include the elected members of Municipal Councils also ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : It may include ; I simply say 'majority of elected non-officials.'

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*) : So, the members proposed by you can also be elected even from any other non-official association ?

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*) : Let us have some clear idea of the position before we discuss and vote upon the resolution.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*) : My doubt is this, Sir. The member simply states in his resolution 'a majority of elected non-official members'. Suppose, tomorrow, a non-official association is organised for some purpose or other. Can the members of the committee, now proposed, be elected from such an association ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : Certainly not ; I do not expect the Government to be so unreasonable,

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MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Then, from which body of non-officials are the members of this Committee to be elected ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I leave it entirely for the Government to decide. I do not expect the Government to choose the non-official members for this committee from any body or association which is to come into existence on a future date just for the purpose of affording an electorate for this purpose as it were. Only, I did not want to tie the hands of Government to any particular institution. That is why I said, in reply to Mr. Kunjitomman's question, that the members for this committee may be elected either from this Council or from the Assembly. I leave it entirely to the Government.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): I suppose some form of *election* is insisted on ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Yes.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Only, the member has not disclosed the agency which is to elect the members ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I leave that to Government.

RAO BAHADUR K.A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): So far as the wording of the resolution is concerned, it is not clear to us as to which is the electorate that is to elect the non-official members to the committee.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Some of the members may be elected by this Council and some others by the Assembly. The non-official members of this Council may elect the non-official members to this committeealso as they did in the case of the Jenmi-Kutiyan Round Table Conference, and as they elect members to the Standing Finance Committee. I do not expect the Government members to vote. I am sorry if the wording of the resolution is vague.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): In the case of the Finance Committee, the Government ask the Council to elect three members.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Government ask only the non-official members of the Council to vote, and not all the members of this Council.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): Which is the rule under which the members of the Finance Committee are elected ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): There is the G. O. for the constitution of the Finance Committee.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Asan has already stated that he would leave it to Government to decide as to how the election is to be made.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): I suppose he insists on the word '*election*'. Certainly, the

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[Rao Bahadur K. A. Krishna Aiyangar.]

House should have some idea as to what Mr. Asan has at the back of his mind in regard to the electorate and the body from which the members are to be elected.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Will Mr. Asan be satisfied if, for instance, the Kuzhitturai Municipality is asked to elect, from among themselves, some members for this committee?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): No, no; I expect the Government to exercise the discretion, that I propose to give them, more intelligently. Certainly, they will not ask the Kuzhitturai Municipality or the Neyyattinkarai Village Panchayat to elect members for this committee.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Why not?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): This is a matter affecting the State as a whole. I do not, therefore, expect the Government to entrust the election of members for this committee to a body which is responsible for the interests of a specific locality and the experience of which is naturally limited to the locality concerned.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Does Mr. Asan suggest that the gentlemen who, in a humbler capacity, are serving in municipalities as the representatives of the people, are incompetent to consider this broader question?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I do not mean that.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): When my friend suggests that he does not expect the Government to go out of the way to the Kuzhitturai Municipality or to the Neyyattinkarai Village Panchayat, and ask them to elect members to this committee, I ask him "suppose in the Kuzhitturai Municipality there are members as intelligent, as responsible, as self-respecting, as experienced and as public-spirited as the members of this Council or of the Assembly". Does my friend, who is prepared to leave the matter entirely to the Government, intend to exclude such gentlemen, for the mere reason that they happen to be members only of the Kuzhitturai Municipality or of some such other *local* institution?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Why should the learned Deputy President choose one particular municipality, the Kuzhitturai Municipality,.....

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Excuse me; I am not responsible for choosing the Kuzhitturai Municipality; my friend must thank Mr. Thanu Pillai for that.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I could have very well appreciated the suggestion if the Trivandrum Municipality had been chosen for this purpose; because it is at least the Municipality of the metropolis.

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MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): May I know from my friend, what is the portion of the resolution which prevents the Government from exercising their discretion in favour of the Kuzhitturai Municipality, for instance, as has been suggested?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): There may not be anything in the resolution itself which fetters the discretion of the Government in the matter; only I expect the Government to exercise their discretion in the proper manner and in consonance with the intention contained in the resolution and the functions of the committee.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Could not the member have been more precise in wording his resolution?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Precise, as to what, I would like to know.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): As to the mode of the election, the qualification of the members to be elected, the extent of the discretion to be exercised by the Government in the matter of the election.....

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): In regard to the improvement of the wording of the resolution, it is quite open to my friends to make their suggestions when their turns come; and if such suggestions are reasonable and acceptable to me, I shall have absolutely no objection to have the resolution amended. I do not, for a moment, maintain that the wording of the resolution is perfect. I think it is the duty of my friends here to suggest amendments and to make it perfect.

MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Though not perfect, should it not be definite?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): When I admit that it is not perfect, it includes the want of definiteness, the want of precision.....

MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Should it not be sufficiently intelligible?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): It is certainly intelligible to all persons who are capable of understanding ordinary things.

PRESIDENT: That is not a fair statement, Mr. Asan.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I do not cast any reflection on anybody. My point is that the resolution would be intelligible only to those who try to understand it in that light.

MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): Is this the way in which a man of ordinary intelligence should move a resolution in this Council?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Surely.

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PRESIDENT: I do not want things here to go on that way. I must say, Mr. Asan, that your answer to Mr. K. P. Madhavan Pillai was not parliamentary.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I am sorry, Sir.

I suggest, Sir, that the committee, suggested in the resolution, may be constituted in order to remedy the defects which have been brought to light in this Council and elsewhere, in the matter of the grades and scales of pay in the public service.

With these words, I move the resolution for the acceptance of the House.

PRESIDENT: The resolution has not been seconded. Therefore it falls to the ground.

The resolution fell through for want of seconding.

The following resolution was not moved ;—

MR. RAMA VARMA RAJA (*Edavagai*):

This Council recommends to the Government that, in view of the present economic depression, the pay of the Government officers be reduced as follows until normal conditions are restored :—

(i)	Pay of officers drawing	Rs. 150 to 300	be reduced by	15	per cent ;	
(ii)	do.	do.	300 to 500	do.	20	do. and
(iii)	do.	do.	500 and above	do.	30	do.

REPRESENTATION OF TAMIL-QUALIFIED PERSONS IN THE VERNACULAR TEXT-BOOK COMMITTEE.

MR. R. S. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): Sir, in view of the importance of the resolution I am going to move, I request that I may be permitted to speak in Tamil though I usually speak in this Council in Malayalam.

PRESIDENT: Members know that there is a kind of convention that each member should choose, on the first occasion that he rises to speak in this Council, the language in which he would like to address the House. I made a slight modification in that by allowing members to speak in English, or, if they find that they could express themselves better in the vernacular, to choose their own vernacular. Mr. Subrahmanya Pillai has till now been addressing the Council in Malayalam. Now he wants to be allowed to talk in Tamil. I do not think I can extend the concession to that extent, since he has already definitely chosen his vernacular language for addressing this House. Malayalam is the vernacular language in which he has chosen to address the Council ; and I think he should stick to that.

MR. R. S. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): Sir, I beg to move the following resolution:—

"This council recommends to the Government that the Vernacular Text Book Committee be represented by not less than three persons qualified in Tamil".

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